

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 AEC-11 AF-10 ARA-16

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 PA-03 PRS-01 RSC-01 SCI-06

SS-15 MBFR-03 USIA-15 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /203 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1361

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NY

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4547

DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, JA, NL, IT, CA

SUBJ: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING AUGUST 22

1. SUMMARY: WESTERN GROUP (WG) MET AUG 22 AT REQUEST OF NETHERLANDS CCD REP WHO SUGGESTED DISCUSSION BY WG OF DISARMAMENT MATTERS LIKELY TO ARISE AT UNGA AND ADMISSION OF TWO GERMANIES TO CCD. IN REGARD TO FORMER, HE RAISED WDC, POSSIBLE CONVENING OF UNDC, AND INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT ORGANIZATION (IDO) RECENTLY PROPOSED TO CCD BY SWEDEN. OTHER MATTERS RAISED DURING COURSE OF WG DISCUSSION WERE POSSIBLE ROMANIAN PROPOSAL FOR UN STUDY OF MILITARY BUDGETS AND CONSIDERATION OF QUESTION OF NAPALM. MARTIN (US) PRESENTED STANDARD US VIEWS. CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHER WESTERN REPS EXPRESSED VIEWS GENERALLY SIMILAR TO THOSE OF US. END SUMMARY.

2. GROUP OF WESTERN CCD REPS (AND JAPAN) MET AUG 22 AT

REQUEST AMB ROSENBERG-POLAK (NETHERLANDS). HE RAISED FOR DISCUSSION DISARMAMENT ITEMS LIKELY TO ARISE AT FORTHCOMING UNGA INCLUDING WDC, THE POSSIBILITY OF CONVENING A MEETING OF THE UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION, AND THE INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT ORGANIZATION IDEA THAT SWEDES HAD INDICATED TO CCD THEY MIGHT PROPOSE IN UNGA.

3. WDC: MARTIN COMMENTED THAT US POSITION ON WDC AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE HAD NOT CHANGED. IN VIEW OF BASIC LACK OF UTILITY OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE WE DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE ANY VALUE TO RECONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE BY NEXT UNGA. HAINWORTH (UK) SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN UK POSITION THAT WDC COULD BE OF UTILITY ONLY IF ALL NUCLEAR POWERS PARTICIPATED. HE SAID UK SAW NO SIGN THAT THIS WAS LIKELY TO OCCUR. DI BERNARDO (ITALY) EXPRESSED DOUBT OF THE USEFULNESS OF EITHER WDC OR UNDC SINCE ITALY DID NOT BELIEVE FRENCH OR CHINESE WERE READY TO DISCUSS DISARMAMENT SERIOUSLY. IN EXPRESSING SIMILAR VIEW, BARTON (CANADA) SAID WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT NON-ALIGNED SUPPORT FOR WDC AND UNDC RESULTED FROM FRUSTRATION AT SLOW PACE OF WORK IN CCD AND LACK OF PARTICIPATION OF CHINA AND FRANCE IN DISARMAMENT DISCUSSIONS. NISIBORI (JAPAN) REITERATED JAPANESE POSITION OF OPPOSITION TO WDC UNLESS ALL FIVE NUCLEAR POWERS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE.

4. UNDC: BARTON SAID CANADA WOULD PROBABLY NOT FAVOR CONVENING UNDC AND MIGHT CONCEIVABLY ABSTAIN ON A RESOLUTION CONVOKING THE UNDC, BUT IT LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS IF UNDC WERE CONVENED. MARTIN STATED THAT WE HAD NOT ESTABLISHED A POSITION ON UNDC, BUT IN THE PAST WE HAD GENERALLY OPPOSED DISCUSSION WHICH WAS LIKELY TO SIMPLY REPEAT DEBATES IN UN FIRST COMMITTEE. HAINWORTH SAID UK "ACTIVELY WOULD NOT WANT" TO SEE UNDC MEET. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER POSSIBILITY FORTHCOMING NON-ALIGNED HEADS OF STATE MEETING IN ALGERIA WOULD TAKE ACTION SUPPORTING IDEA OF CONVENING UNDC, WHICH WOULD INCREASE POSSIBILITY OF UN ACTION FAVORING

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UNDC. HE SUGGESTED CCD MEMBERS SHOULD POINT OUT TO NON-ALIGNED THAT A MEETING OF THE UNDC WAS NOT LIKELY TO BE CONSTRUCTIVE, AND THEREFORE SHOULD NOT BE PROMOTED, UNTIL CHINESE INDICATED THEY WERE WILLING TO TAKE PART SERIOUSLY IN DISARMAMENT DISCUSSIONS. NISIBORI SAID THAT HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THE UNDC QUESTION, BUT THOUGHT THAT JAPAN WOULD TAKE "A DIM VIEW" OF CONVENING UNDC. HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, SINCE UNDC WAS ALREADY FORMALLY CONSTITUTED, AND FRANCE AND CHINA WERE MEMBERS, IT COULD NOT BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE WILLING ACTIVELY TO DISCUSS DISARMAMENT IN THE UNDC. IT WOULD THUS BE HARD FOR JAPANESE TO OPENLY OPPOSE CONVENING OF UNDC. HE ALSO REPORTED TO WG THAT SOVIET CCD AMB ROSHCHIN HAD TOLD HIM

THAT SOV DEL HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON WNDC, BUT ROSHCHIN PERSONALLY THOUGHT UNDC, AS SUBSIDIARY UN ORGAN, WAS TOO NARROW A FORUM FOR SIGNIFICANT DISARMAMENT DISCUSSION AND SOVS CONTINUED PREFER THEIR PROPOSAL FOR HIGH-LEVEL WDC. ROSENBERG-POLAK SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WERE IN FAVOR CONTINUANCE OF DISARMAMENT DISCUSSIONS IN CCD OR SIMILAR SMALL BODY AND WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE NEW DISARMAMENT BODY CREATED BY UNDC.

5. ADMISSION FRG AND GDR TO CCD: MARTIN TOLD WG WE CONTINUED SUPPORT FRG'S CANDIDACY FOR CCD AND UNDERSTOOD THAT IF FRG JOINS, GDR WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE ADMITTED. WE ALSO ASSUMED A SMALL NUMBER OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS MIGHT ALSO HAVE TO BE ADMITTED AT THE SAME TIME. HOWEVER, IT APPEARED PREMATURE TO US TO ESTABLISH TACTICS FOR DEALING WITH MEMBERSHIP QUESTION AT UNGA IN VIEW OF THE MANY UNCERTAINTIES REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF THE ENTIRE DISARMAMENT SUBJECT AT THE GA. HAINWORTH EXPRESSED SIMILAR VIEWS ON ADMISSION GERMANIES. DI BERNARDO SAID THAT ITALY SUPPORTED THE FRG'S CANDIDACY FOR CCD MEMBERSHIP AND ACCEPTED FACT NECESSITY ADMIT GDR ALSO. HE ASKED FOR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH WESTERN GROUP ON POSSIBLE ADMISSION ADDITIONAL NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES. NISIBORI SAID THAT JAPAN WOULD WELCOME CCD MEMBERSHIP OF FRG AND WAS PREPARED ACCEPT MEMBERSHIP OF GDR AND SMALL NUMBER OF NON-ALIGNED. HE EXPRESSED JAPANESE PREFERENCE FOR INCLUSION INDONESIA AMONG LATTER.

6. IDO: MARTIN, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SAID HE BELIEVED THERE CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD BE MANY PROBLEMS WITH IDO PROPOSAL. HE MENTIONED DIFFICULTIES THAT WOULD ARISE WITH IDO ATTEMPTING TO MONITOR MANY DIFFERENT DISARMAMENT TREATIES EACH OF WHICH HAD DIFFERENT STATES PARTIES. HAINWORTH ALSO DOUBTED FEASIBILITY OF IDO, BUT REPORTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN NO DECISION ON IDO OR ON RECENT NETHERLANDS SUGGESTION TO CCD TO CREATE BODY FOR MONITORING CW AGREEMENT THAT MIGHT LATER BE EXPANDED TO MONITOR OTHER DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS. ROSENBERG-POLAK REPLIED THAT HIS GOVT HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT PROBLEM OF IDO MONITORING TREATIES TO WHICH DIFFERENT PARTIES SUBSCRIBED AND THOUGHT DIFFICULTIES COULD BE WORKED OUT.

7. NAPALM: BARTON RAISED QUESTION OF POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF QUESTION OF NAPALM SAYING THAT CANADA FELT THAT IF IT MUST BE DISCUSSED IT WAS PREFERABLE TO DISCUSS IT IN THE FIRST UNGA COMMITTEE, RATHER THAN IN THE SIXTH, AND IN CCD RATHER THAN ICRC. DI BERNARDO SAID ITALY WOULD ALSO PREFER DISCUSS NAPALM IN THE CCD, BUT SAID NON-ALIGNED WOULD PREFER DISCUSSION IN ICRC. HE ADDED THAT NON-ALIGNED ARE AIMING AT AN INTERDICTION ON NAPALM'S USE SIMILAR TO THE RESTRICTION IN THE GENEVA PROTOCOL ON THE USE OF CW. MARTIN SAID US PLANNED TO ACKNOWLEDGE SYG'S LETTER REQUESTING COMMENTS ON

UN NAPALM REPORT, BUT THAT WE WOULD NOT MAKE ANY SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS. IF IT BECAME NECESSARY TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS ON NAPALM WE THOUGHT IT PREFERABLE TO DO SO AT THE CCD RATHER THAN IN THE CONTEXT OF ICRC DELIBERATIONS ON HUMANITARIAN LAW APPLICABLE TO ARMED CONFLICTS. HAINWORTH EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH CANADIAN VIEWS ON NAPALM, BUT NISIBORI SAID THAT JAPAN, IN CONTRAST TO OTHER MEMBERS WG, FAVORED CONSIDERATION OF NAPALM BY ICRC.

8. UN STUDY MILITARY BUDGETS: BARTON, IN RAISING QUESTION OF UN STUDY OF MILITARY BUDGETS, SAID HE BELIEVED SYG NOT AS INTERESTED IN IDEA OF STUDY BEING PUSHED BY ROMANIANS AS WERE ROMANIANS AND SYG SPECIAL CONSULTANT, EPSTEIN. MARTIN AND OTHER WESTERN REPS INDICATED NO INTEREST IN ENCOURAGING IDEA.

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